## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 - 5 (Canceled):

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): A method for preparing a coating composition curable by active energy rays which comprises:

hydrolyzing and condensing an alkyl silicate of formula (1) to produce a siloxane compound (A)

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
OR^{3} \\
| \\
R^{1}-O-(S_{i}-O)_{n}-R^{2} \\
| \\
OR^{4}
\end{array}$$
(1)

wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, and R<sup>4</sup> represent an alkyl group having 1 to 5 carbon atoms or an acyl group having 2 to 4 carbon atoms, respectively, and n indicates an integer from 3 to 20, and adding a cation polymerization initiator (B) having a sensitivity to the active energy rays to said siloxane compound (A) to produce the coating composition curably by active energy rays.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): A method for preparing a molded article having a protective film which comprises:

Applying the coating composition prepared by the method of claim 6 on the surface of a substrate; and

irradiating active energy rays to the composition to form the protective film.

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